

Date:09/30/93

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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : SSCIA
RECORD NUMBER : 157-10011-10053

RECORDS SERIES :

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : SSCIA
FROM :
TO :

TITLE :
TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

DATE : 07/11/75
PAGES : 101

SUBJECTS :

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING; WITNESS, HARVEY, WILLIAM K.

EXHIBITS: MEMORANDUM FOR THE SPECIAL GROUP: LANSDALE, BRIG. [R]

OPERATION MONGOOSE [R]

EXHIBIT: MCCONE'S MEMORANDUM OF APRIL 26, 1962 RE CUBA [R]

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : T
RESTRICTIONS : REFERRED
CURRENT STATUS : P
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 09/29/93

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS :

SSCI Box 246, Folder 1 (R-486)

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

TOP SECRET

15

1 Mr. Schwarz. Reflecting a minute of the meeting on May
2 3rd, Present: General Taylor, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Johnson; Mr.
3 Gilpatrick, General Decker, General Lansdale and General
4 Craig; Mr. McCone, and Mr. Harvey.

5 Here I would like to read into the record the entirety
6 of paragraph 2, which is: "Mr. Harvey gave a rundown on
7 progress to date, with agent teams and in the general field of
8 intelligence, including the Opa-locka interrogation center and
9 the [redacted] clandestine interrogation center. He outlined
10 various difficulties encountered and said the three agent teams
11 had been infiltrated and the five W/T sets are in place.
12 Approximately 72 actual or potential reporting sources are
13 also in place. A significant development is that Major Duque
14 has refused to allow agents responsive to him to be dispatched
15 on purely intelligence-gathering missions. (This sort of
16 attitude had been forecast earlier as a possibility, but it now
17 assumes particular importance in view of Duque's stature.)"

(1)(B)

18 All right.

19 Now, having marked these three exhibits, Mr. Harvey, they
20 surround your visit to Miami when you passed the poisoned pills
21 to Roselli for assassination purposes.

22 Now you have testified that when you were in Miami you
23 did a lot of other things. Could you first state what they
24 are?

25 Mr. Harvey. Well, basically, this was one of a number of

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1 operations, and that I had been previously been Chief of
2 [redacted] Station in Berlin for a number of years. The only time the
3 007 comment was ever made to my knowledge was at a Special
4 Group (Augmented) meeting, and the sort of facetious comment
5 by the then-Attorney General, why can't you -- and this was a
6 part of his sort of favorite author was Ian Fleming, and so
7 on -- why can't you gentlemen get things cooking the way 007
8 does?

9 That's the only time I ever recall that being made, or that
10 type of reference being made.

11 As far as this business of the firearms is concerned, the
12 only incident that ever happened on that is the one that I
13 mentioned a moment ago, gentlemen. There was one occasion when
14 as I recall I was at lunch and was called from the Director's
15 Office and told to go to the White House because of a meeting.

16 I did happen to be armed at the time, and it occurred to
17 me as I went in downstairs at the White House that it was most
18 inappropriate for anybody except the Secret Service officer to
19 go up to the White House offices armed, so I checked the sidearm
20 that I had with the Secret Service officer at the desk, and I
21 picked it up on the way out.

22 That is the only incident, as far as I know, not only as
23 far as I know, it is the only incident that ever happened which
24 even remotely resembles the question you raised.

25 Senator Hart of Michigan. Are you describing two visits

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gsh 16 1 documents we discussed previously.

2 After you called Frank Hand about the 13 August memo from¹
3 Lansdale, did you talk to anyone else about the part that
4 you desired excised from that memo?

5 Mr. Harvey. Yes, I probably mentioned the particular memo
6 and the excised parts to several people, Mr. Smothers, and
7 starting with the Director, I am not sure I mentioned that to
8 him personally or not.

9 Mr. Smothers. The Director, you mean Mr. McCone?

10 Mr. Harvey. Yes. If I did not, then I am rather sure
11 that I briefed Walter Elder to brief the Director on this.
12 I may also have discussed it with the Director personally.

13 The memorandum that you have in the record was written
14 to Helms. I believe that was in part confirmatory of an
15 oral conversation I had with him. I probably would have
16 mentioned it, or possibly may have mentioned it to two other
17 individuals who very possibly could have seen the memorandum
18 before I did. One would have been Sam Halpern and the other
19 would have been Bruce Cheeten, who is my Deputy.

20 But now on this last answer, Mr. Smothers, I'm just
21 telling you it would have been logical had I done so. I do
22 not have any firm recollection.

23 Mr. Smothers. Do you recall if you discussed it with
24 any of the other addressees?

25 Mr. Harvey. No, I do not believe that I did, although

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(1)(A)

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R459

26 April 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: CUBA

1. General Lansdale reported on the activities as per the attached report. McCone expressed dissatisfaction with progress; stated nothing had been accomplished in putting Cubans in the Army for training and that no actions had been taken on matters decided two weeks ago. (In other words, I was very disagreeable.) McCone finally recommended more action; acceptance of attribution if necessary; establishment of training facilities; training of guerrillas and a more dynamic effort in the infiltration of both agents and guerrillas.

ACTION: A meeting should be arranged between McCone, Lansdale, and Harvey, immediately upon Harvey's return.

2. The Attorney General requested copies of the Daily Reports on the Opa Laka interrogation. General Taylor instructed Lansdale to prepare a summary of the reports, paying particular attention to specific items of information on complaints which were recurring in successive interviews.

3. General Taylor requested that Mr. Harvey attend the next meeting and report on agent activites.

4. General Taylor suggested that McCone review the memorandum summarizing "Communist Indoctrination of Latin America" with the President at the earliest opportunity.

5. NPIC made a most interesting presentation of the last ~~CORONA~~ flight.

ACTION: McCone agreed to arrange briefing for the President at the earliest convenient time; also briefing for Macmillan when he is here, at a convenient time.

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JUL 11 1975

JOHN A. McCONE

Director

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